



Atty. Dkt. No. 032026-0707

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ferencz Denes et al.

Title: **HARD CARBON FILMS
FORMED FROM PLASMA
TREATED POLYMER
SURFACES**

Appl. No.: 10/686,790

Filing Date: October 16, 2003

Examiner: Melanie D. Bissett

Art Unit: 1711

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below. <u>Michelle Manning</u> (Printed Name) <u>[Signature]</u> (Signature) <u>January 27, 2006</u> (Date of Deposit)

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

*Do not enter.
MOB 2/2/06*

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Bissett:

This communication is a reply to a Final Office Action mailed November 29, 2005, in relation to the above-referenced patent application. The period for the initial response to the Office Action is set to expire on February 28, 2006. Applicants believe that this response is timely filed.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required for the filing or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-2350. For the purpose of using said deposit account, a duplicate of page one and the signature page of the Response is submitted herewith.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which beings on page 3 of this document.